

REMARKS

Regarding paragraphs 1-25 of the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-19, 12, 15, 16, 21, 22, 25-30, 32, 33, 35 and 36 have been cancelled and will be pursued in a subsequent divisional application.

Regarding paragraphs 26 and 27 of the Office Action, claim 29 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctively claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. This rejection has been overcome in amended claim 29 which states that "the module is formed of at least one polymeric material".

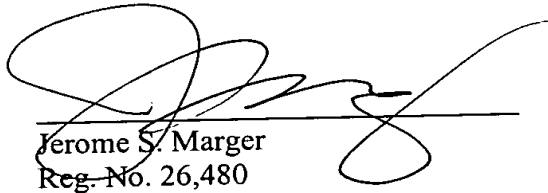
Regarding paragraph 28 of the Office Action, claim 36 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctively claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. This rejection has been overcome in amended claim 36 which states that "the module is formed of at least one polymeric material".

Regarding paragraph 29 of the Office Action, claims 4, 11, 12, 14, 17, 20, 23, 24, 31, 34, 37 and 40 have been indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Original independent claims 1 and 21 have been rewritten (as currently amended independent claims 1 and 21) to include all of the limitations of respective allowable dependent claims 4 and 24. Claims 11, 12, 14, 17, 20, 23, 31, 34, 37 and 40 have been rewritten in independent form as respective new claims 41-50.

For the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-3, 5-17, 20-23, 25-35, 37, 40-49 of the application as submitted is solicited. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing this patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

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